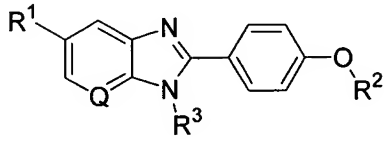
Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of Formula I

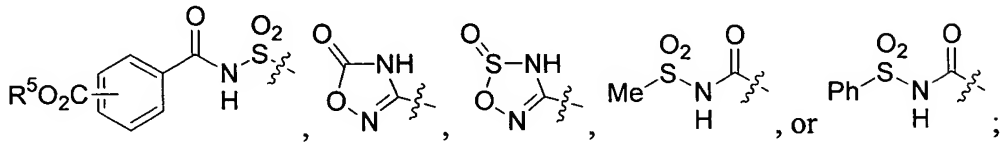


I

wherein:

Q is ~~CH or~~ N;

R^1 is tetrazolyl, $MeCONHSO_2$-, $PhCONHSO_2$-, $R^5O_2C(CH_2)_{0-3}CONHSO_2$-,



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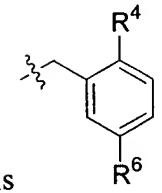
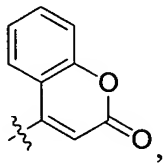
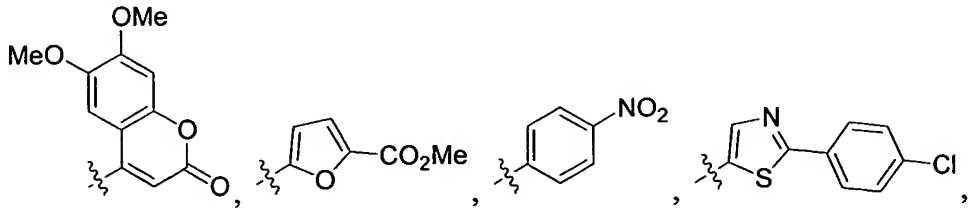
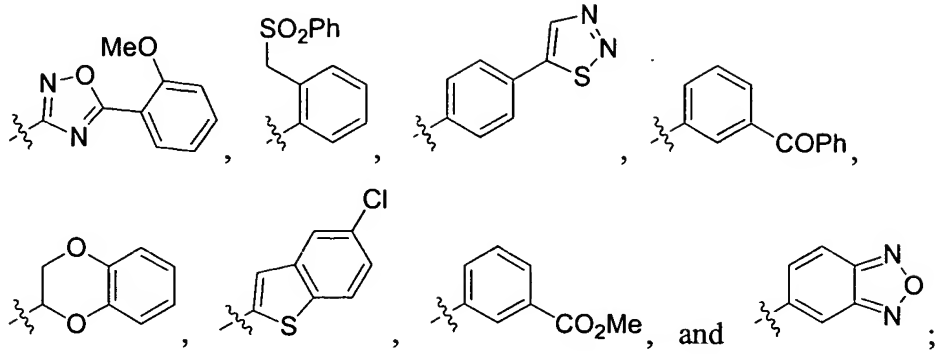
R^2 is  , $-CH_2Ar^1$, $-CHPh_2$, $-CH_2CO(4\text{-}FPh)$, $-CH_2CO(4\text{-}CF_3Ph)$, or $-CH_2CONp$ where Np is naphthyl;

R^3 is C_{5-7}cycloalkyl;

R^4 is hydrogen, Ar^2, or Ar^3;

Ar^1 is selected from the following group: phenyl, halophenyl,  ,



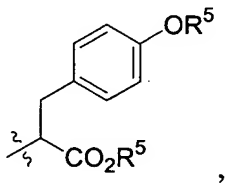


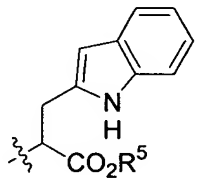
Ar^2 is phenyl, naphthyl, or biphenyl, optionally substituted with 1-3 substituents selected from the group comprising halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, C_{1-6}sulfoxy, C_{1-2}perfluoroalkyl, hydroxy, formyl, C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyl, cyano, nitro, C_{1-6}alkylamido, CO_2R^5, $CONR^5R^5$, C_{1-6}alkylsulfonamido, and dioxolane;

Ar^3 is thienyl, furanyl, pyrrolyl, benzothiophenyl, benzofuranyl, indolyl, quinolinyl, or pyrimidinyl optionally substituted with 1-2 substituents selected from the group comprising C_{1-6}alkyl, formyl, acetoxy, trifluoroacetoxy, and t-butoxycarbonyl;

R^5 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}alkyl;

R^6 is halogen, methoxy, CO_2R^5 or $CONR^7R^8$;

R^7 and R^8 are independently hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, $-CH(Me)CO_2R^5$, $-(CH_2)_{1-3}CO_2R^5$, $-(CH_2)_{1-3}CONR^5R^5$, $-(CH_2)_{1-3}OH$, 

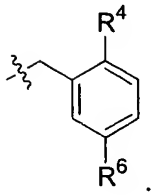
, or 

;

or R^7 and R^8 taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form pyrrolidine, morpholine, piperidine, 4-hydroxypiperidine, piperazine, or 4-methylpiperazine;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or prodrug thereof.

2. (Original) A compound of claim 1 wherein R^3 is cyclohexyl.

3. (Original) A compound of claim 1 wherein R^1 is tetrazolyl and R^2 is  .

4. (Original) A compound of claim 3 wherein R^4 is Ar^2.

5. (Original) A compound of claim 4 wherein R^3 is cyclohexyl.

6. (Original) A compound of claim 3 wherein R^4 is Ar^3.

7. (Original) A compound of claim 6 wherein R^3 is cyclohexyl.

8. (Original) A compound of claim 3 wherein R^4 is hydrogen.

9. (Original) A compound of claim 8 wherein R^3 is cyclohexyl.

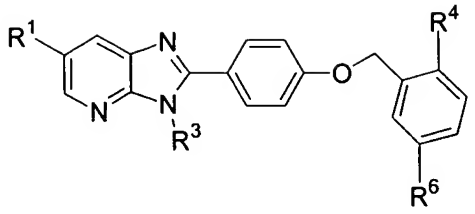
10. (Original) A compound of claim 1 wherein R^2 is $-CH_2Ar^1$.

11. (Original) A compound of claim 10 wherein R^3 is cyclohexyl.

12. (Original) A composition useful for treating hepatitus C comprising a therapeutic amount of a compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

13. (Original) A method for treating hepatitus C comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1 to a patient.

14. (New) A compound of Formula Ia



Ia

wherein:

R^1 is tetrazolyl or $MeCONHSO_2$-;

R^3 is C_{5-7}cycloalkyl;

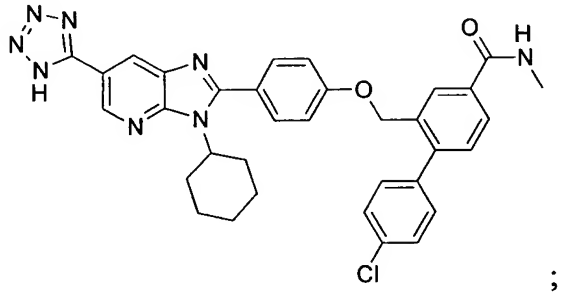
R^4 is phenyl substituted with halogen or cyano;

R^6 is methoxy or $CONR^7R^8$;

R^7 and R^8 are independently hydrogen or C_{1-6}alkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or prodrug thereof.

15. (New) A compound of claim 14 selected from the group consisting of;



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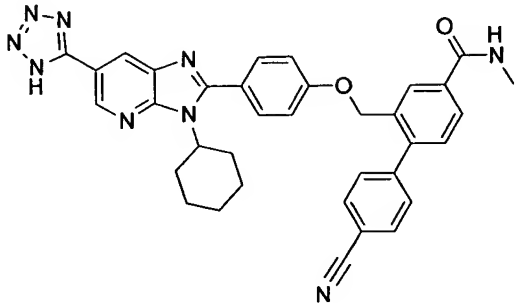
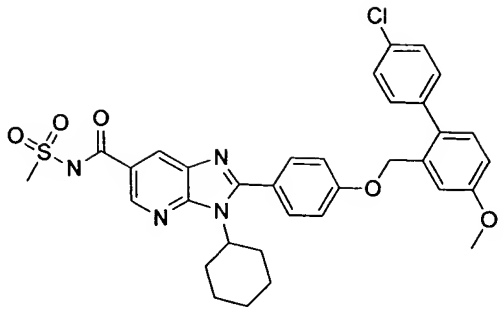


; and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